



# Raider Review



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U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

**Let the games begin...** Pfc. Brad Laura, supply, HHC, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., decked out in a toga lights the 1st BCT unit crest to signify the beginning of the Raider Olympics held on Fort Hood March 9. For more on the event, see below and page 10.

## Raider Brigade hosts olympics, family fun day

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt  
*Editor, Raider Review*

**T**he 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, hosted an Olympics and Family Fun Day for Soldiers and family members of the brigade on

Fort Hood March 9.

Soldiers of the brigade and many family members woke up early for a one-mile run around the brigade footprint and were treated to an opening torch lighting ceremony to start off the event.

During the day Soldiers from the brigade's six battalions played against each other in soccer, tug of

war, track, basketball, horseshoes, Frisbee football, volleyball and softball. The kids were entertained with an array of activities to pass the time.

"We are going to have a great day," said Col. James Pasquarette, commander, 1st BCT. "Not only is this a Raider Family Day, it's also the Raider Olympics. This (go to page 10, 4th Spt. Bn.)

# Brigade in turbulent time, change

By Col. James Pasquarette  
*Commander, 1st BCT*

**S**oldiers of the Raider Brigade: time for another update...

We remain in the midst of a turbulent period as we lose Soldiers to ETS, PCS and reassignment within 4th

Infantry Division and gain Soldiers through the same means. Simultaneously, we have been drawing equipment left behind by our 1st Cavalry Division brothers while turning in equipment for "reset" that we brought home from Iraq. This is a condition that exists around the Army right now. I appreciate everyone working together to rebuild the team so we can begin training.

We have a great plan in place to



get the new team on board. It starts with resetting the new commanders and ensuring they are ready for the task at hand. As I write this, we have changed out about 12 of the company level commanders. We have about three or four changes of command to go to set the team. There are about 15 company level commanders that took command in Iraq last summer who will take their companies back to Iraq later this year. We are also working across the brigade at various levels to ensure our leaders – from company commander to first line leader are confident and competent in the identified competencies critical to success in a counter-insurgency environment. At the company level, we've been conducting a series of professional development classes, professional readings and one-on-one sessions with me to meet this goal of confident and competence before we enter the collective training window. In addition to new company commanders, we are about to transition the battalion level commanders. The current commanders – LTCs Cross,

Kmiecik, Newman, Osborne, Snow and Thompson – are incredible leaders that have performed superbly in preparing their units for combat, in executing combat operations, and rebuilding the team the last few months. The strength of our Army, however, is its ability to replace its leadership with no loss of expertise or excellence. Our new set of commanders will be just as committed to the mission and our Soldiers as the current set. I wish the outgoing commanders the best of luck as they leave command – and welcome the new set to the best job they'll ever have.

The battalions and squadron have developed patrol and platoon level training plans that will stress our junior leaders and teams in the tasks deemed critical for success in Iraq. We'll have to use our imagination somewhat to replicate gun-trucks and other capabilities not available here at Fort Hood. However, I'm confident it will be invaluable training for our units – especially since we still have a great amount of recent combat experience (go to page 9, Raiders)

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To contribute to the *Raider Review* contact the 1st BCT Public Affairs Office or send stories, photos and information to [brent.hunt@us.army.mil](mailto:brent.hunt@us.army.mil).

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# Pride in unit builds cohesiveness

By Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bobb  
*Command Sergeant Major, 1st BCT*

**P**ride in the unit.  
1. Calling cadence

is used to motivate, inspire and keep the Soldiers in step. Cadence builds cohesiveness in our units, singing cadence about other units does not show a lot of pride in your own unit. The 82nd Airborne Division and the 101st Airborne Div. are not singing



cadence about Fort Hood, I know, I've been stationed there. Also, we must clean up the profanity in our cadence. Let's take pride in our actions and continue to honor this important tradition that has withstood the test of time.

2. During the past two weeks I've visited small-arms ranges and observed our Soldiers doing outstanding training. Our NCOs are the primary trainers for these Soldiers, so keep in mind when conducting marksmanship training the proficiency attained by a Soldier depends on proper training and application of the basic marksmanship fundamentals. Emphasis is on learning the firing fundamentals which are taught in four phases. This will prepare our Soldiers

for advanced optic and laser training for combat.

3. On March 13, I met with BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers) Representatives from each battalion. Once a week we will meet to discuss ways to enhance the morale and welfare of our single Soldiers. We will talk about recreation and leisure events, and the morale and welfare of our Soldiers living in the barracks. Pfc. Saunders from 4th Support Bn. has volunteered to lead our BOSS program; she is very motivated and has already made a difference by identifying a list of topics for discussion.

4. Our first DFAC (Dining Facility Enlisted Advisory Counsel) convened (go to page 9, DFAC )



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

**NCOs get together...** Every NCO from the 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. got together recently for a group photo at Fort Hood's Officers Club. The NCOs had an NCO Induction Ceremony, talked shop and had a social mixer.

# Raider Brigade Chaplain's Corner:

## *How do you want to be remembered?*

By Maj. John Morales  
*Brigade Chaplain*

**E**lie Wiesel, who survived the atrocities of Nazi Germany once said, *"What hurts the victim most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander."*

In today's clamor for "peace" it is easy to get caught up in the idea that peace is only obtained by getting along with others, no matter the cruelty of their behavior which is a reflection of the cruelty of their ideas. You know the "can't we all just get along?" mentality. History is full of examples of men and women: military and civilian alike, who knew that silence was not golden and who fought against the prevailing ideologies of their day to end abominations like apartheid, slavery, the oppression of women and children and other crimes against God and humanity.

When others stood silently by, hoping beyond hope that it would all go away in its own time, these brave souls realized that faith and action carried the day.

Recently a movie was released called *"Amazing Grace"* which details the life of William Wilberforce, who was elected to the British Parliament at age 21 and understood the tragedy of the slavery of his day. It reflects on a life that was fully spent to end an evil that decimated not only the body, but the soul of the slave, humanity and a



nation. He willfully placed himself in harms way, was willing to experience the scorn and deprivation accompanying taking an unpopular stand and withstood attacks that were personal, vindictive and crushing. All for the sake of others whom he knew God loved and was saddened by their plight.

By the way, slavery was finally abolished slightly before his death, nearly three decades later. Though he himself struggled with doubts about himself and his ability, he always had around him men and women who understood that his place in this world was mapped out by God and his mission divine. I encourage you to see this movie and to read about Wilberforce. We all have much to learn from his life. Yet, it is not enough.

Why would I even need to mention this? As time moves forward the obstacles we face as Soldiers and

family members can seem daunting and overwhelming.

Often we seek to take the path of least resistance and cling to personal safety and security. Yet what we learn from the lives of those men and women in our past and present is that silence is not golden, sitting idly by while others suffer is unacceptable.

It has been said that everyone dies, but not every one lives. As we begin the preparations for another deployment in a time and to a place where it seems like a lost cause I encourage you to remember that a life fully lived embraces the difficulties of the day and by action seeks to remedy injustice, hardship and combat evil in whatever form it takes.

We are members of one of the greatest callings on Earth, that of the American Soldier and their family. Each of us has the ability, regardless of age, status or position, to make a tremendous impact in our world. But it requires, not silence, but action, not personal safety but sacrifice. It is not always easy, but the greatest rewards come when we stand up for those who cannot stand for themselves and act in such a way as to fight the good fight.

Lemuel, an ancient king, once wrote (and he reminds us), *"Speak up for the people who have no voice...speak out for justice! Stand up...."* (his 31st Proverb, lines 8 and 9).

What we do now that the pressure is mounting will reflect who we are, a bystander or a person of action. How do you want to be remembered when your life is over?



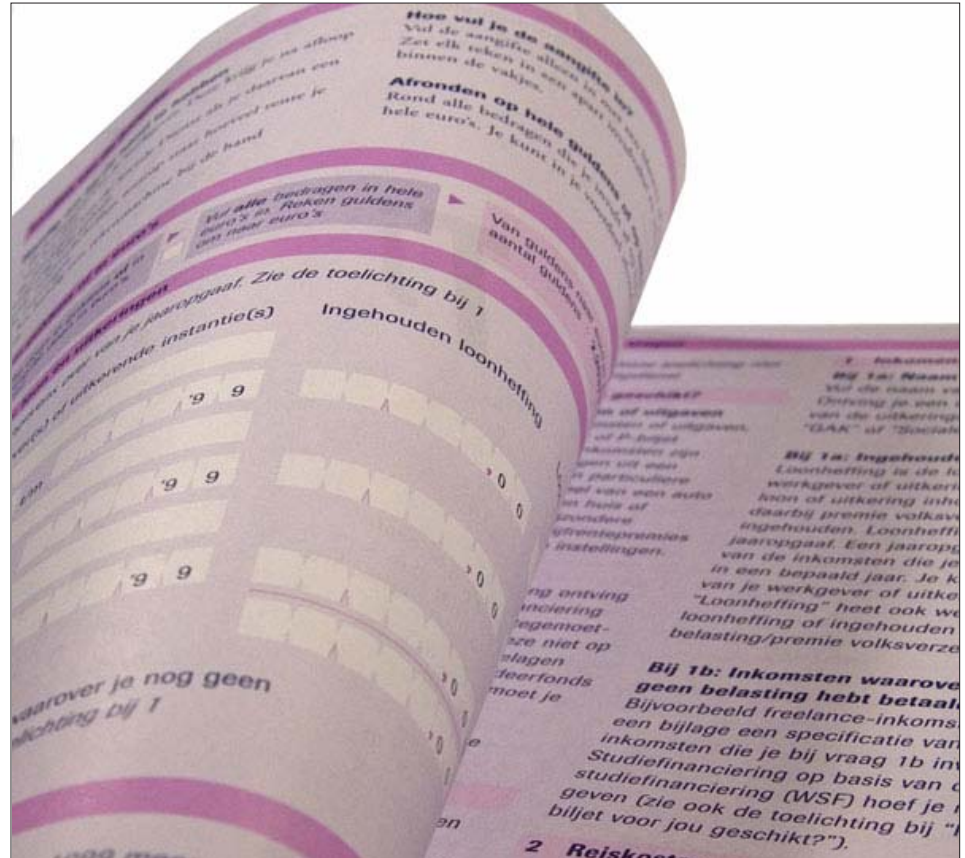
# The Judges Corner: Income tax services offered on post are beneficial, free

Capt. Danisha L. Morris  
Brigade Trial Counsel

**M**any Soldiers at Fort Hood have spent most, if not all 2006, separated from family, friends and the comforts of home. As a small consolation for their sacrifices, these Soldiers found that their bank accounts expanded as a result of combat pay, family separation pay and other tax-excluded income. Upon returning home, commanders may have discovered that Soldiers' bank accounts were not the only things that expanded - many Soldiers got married and started families, purchased homes and made other decisions that may have long-lasting tax implications. While some Soldiers may be adept at maneuvering thorough the complicated maze of the tax code, the majority will need assistance understanding what tax benefits may have accrued to them over the past year. For that majority, the Fort Hood Tax Center is the answer.

The FHTC provides the highest quality tax services to all active duty military, family members and retirees. Services include providing federal and state income tax forms, preparation of federal and state income tax returns, electronic filing of federal returns, and direct deposit of refunds or automatic debit of taxes owed.

Soldiers may get assistance on a federal return on either a walk-in basis



or by appointment by calling 287-3294 one week in advance. Soldiers filing a 1040EZ can complete the form, drop it off at one of the two drop-off sites (the 4ID Tax Center or III Corp Legal Assistance Office, Room 224, III Corps HQs), return in three days to sign the return and have it electronically filed. State returns, however, must be done by appointment at the III Corps Legal Assistance Office, Building 1001, Room 224, by calling 288-5040.

When coming to the FHTC, Soldiers should bring all tax-related documents, including W-2 forms, 1099s and social security cards for each family member. If a spouse or other designated agent is filing on a Soldiers behalf, a power of attorney

that states "for income tax" and the relevant tax year the agent is authorized to file is required.

The FHTC is co-located with the Clear Creek Commissary, Building 50001, on Clear Creek Road, and the normal hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. through 6 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays. The convenient location allows one family member to grocery shop while another files the family's tax return.

In addition to the basic tax services, the tax officer is available to provide briefings to units, family support groups and organizations on basic tax information. But most impressively, all services provided by the FHTC are free, which should ensure many happy returns.

# Raider DFAC reopens doors on Fort Hood after two-year closure

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt  
*Editor, Raider Review*

**N**estled on the corner of 33rd Street and Old Ironsides Avenue on Fort Hood, the 1st Raider Brigade Dining Facility opened its doors March 1 after being closed for almost two years.

The DFAC has undergone a major renovation with new ceilings, walls, seating and cooking equipment upgrades installed to better support Soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division who have recently returned from Iraq after a year-long tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Armed with more than 100 1st BCT Soldier cooks, the DFAC is now ready to serve seven days a week.

"The guys serving here have a lot of pride in their work," said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Schmidt, brigade food supervisor, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Support Battalion, 1st BCT. "The Soldier cooks you see in here are the same ones you (1st BCT Soldiers) will see downrange. It (the DFAC) creates a lot of unit cohesion, and I believe the quality of the food is better here.

"This (the DFAC) gives Soldiers a choice of where they want to eat," Schmidt added. "Also, we are striving to have a higher headcount than other DFACs on post, because it means the



*U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt*

**Staff Sgt. Robert Shafer, supply noncommissioned officer in charge, Co. A, 1st STB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. pays for his lunch at the 1st Raider Brigade DFAC which reopened its doors after a two-year closure. Shafer was the first customer at the renovated DFAC.**

food is better and Soldiers are coming back to visit us again and again."

At the DFAC, Soldiers are offered a wide-variety of foods to choose for selection. Included in the choices for lunch and dinner are a main line, fast food line, deli, salad bar, soup of the day, taco bar, potato bar, breads, dessert and all you can drink from the soda, tea and juice fountains. For breakfast, the DFAC offers eggs made to order, bacon, sausage and potatoes or they can pick-up cereal, pancakes or fruit from the serve yourself bars located throughout the facility. On the weekends, the choices are more than the weekdays.

Family members and Department of Defense civilians are also invited to eat at the DFAC anytime they like. Patrons of the DFAC can enjoy their meals in the vast dining room which offers seating for more than 200 who

can watch television or just immerse themselves in conversation about the day's events.

"I eat at the DFAC frequently, and I am a firm believer in the DFAC," said Staff Sgt. Robert Shafer, supply noncommissioned officer in charge, Co. A, 1st Special Troops Bn., 1st BCT, who was the first customer to dine at the facility since the brigade returned from the Iraqi theater. "The prices are great, and the food looks really good. I am ready to eat."

The DFAC is open Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. for breakfast, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch and 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for dinner. On the weekends, the DFAC opens at 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for brunch and 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for supper.

The standard rates for meals are breakfast at \$2, lunch \$3.65, dinner \$3.65, brunch \$4.20 and supper is \$5.15.



# FRG leaders honored at ceremony

By Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt  
Editor, Raider Review

**C**ol. James Pasquarette, commander of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, honored 44 Family Readiness Group leaders from the 1st BCT with Certificates of Appreciation at a ceremony held on Fort Hood Feb. 20.

The leaders were given the certificates for the work they did while the brigade was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“We couldn’t hire anyone to be as effective as you have been,” said Pasquarette. “I know the commitment you make as an Army spouse.”

FRGs serve as communication tools between military units and family members while the Soldier is deployed. They put out information via newsletters, emails and phone calls about what Soldiers are doing while deployed and they have programs that help ease the strain family members experience while their



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Col. James Pasquarette, commander, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. stands with Erin Jones, FRG leader for Co. B, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt., 1st BCT, Feb. 20 on Fort Hood after receiving a Certificate of Appreciation for the work she did as the company FRG leader while the brigade was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

loved ones are not around.

In addition, FRGs provide a number of computers and Web cameras with video teleconference capability for families that don’t have computers at home. This makes it possible for them to see and talk to their deployed Soldier via the Internet.

“We help families get in touch with their loved one,” said Staff Sgt. Paula Nolan-Tillet, a member of the 1st BCT rear detachment. “We’re like facilitators and we help them get what they need.”

FRGs enable family members to

operate in a system where they can effectively gather information, solve problems and maintain mutual support for each other.

Leaders from the 1st BCT recently completed a year of supporting the family members and Soldiers of the brigade while the unit was conducting combat operations in the Baghdad region.

“A typical spouse doesn’t have to worry about their spouse getting up and leaving for a danger zone,” Pasquarette added. “You (Army spouses) are just as much a patriot as the Soldier you married.”



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Col. James Pasquarette, commander, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. stands with Vanessa Wamsley, FRG leader with Co. C, 1st Bn., 66th AR, 1st BCT at an awards ceremony held on Fort Hood Feb. 20.



# Change of Command bonanza



*U.S. Army photos by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt*

**Capt. Jonathan Bender, commander, Co. D, 1st Bn., 66th AR, takes command from Capt. Stephen Oliver March 8.**



**Capt. Jason Ballard, commander, Co. E, Fwd. Spt. Co., 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt., takes command from Capt. Jennifer McDonough Feb. 20.**



**Capt. Ryan Burcham, commander, HHT, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., far right, takes command from Capt. David Lombardo Feb. 14.**



**Capt. Donald Campbell, commander, HHC, 4th Spt. Bn., far right, takes command from Capt. Eric Banks, far left, Feb. 22.**



**Capt. David Lombardo, commander, Trp. B, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt. takes command from Capt. Ryan Long Feb. 14.**



**Capt. Ed Kennedy, commander, Co. B, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt., far right takes command from Maj. Matthew Weber Feb. 14.**



**Capt. Brent Kennedy, commander, Co. F, 1st Bn., 66th AR, takes command from Capt. Dennis Fajardo March 7.**



**Capt. Roman Izzo, commander, Co. C, 1st Bn., 66th AR, pictured in front, takes command from Maj. Jake Wamsley March 8.**



# Raiders are heroes in eyes of great nation

— (continued from page 2) in our formation.

A quick note on reenlistment. I just signed an update to the reenlistment policy. We're now offering an education incentive for first term and mid-career Soldiers. This incentive allows these Soldiers to have six months for college classes in the local area. Soldiers in these two groups need to reenlist prior to 30 April for current stabilization. They will take college classes between 1 May and 1 Nov., then deploy with the team to Iraq. For mid-careerists, we're offering a two year enlistment – which allows

you to reenter the window in Iraq. It's a great deal – get the word out and take advantage of it.

Finally, I want to congratulate the great 4th Support Battalion for winning the Raider Brigade Family Day Olympics. They lapped the field on 9 March – winning by a wide margin. It was a great day for the entire brigade – something I wish we could do more often if we weren't so busy. It was great to see all the family members out that day.

Again, it's a turbulent time due to all the personnel changes and equipment challenges. However, we

have a good plan to deal with the turbulence and train our unit to standard. Keep your head in the game, know what's going on and stay out of trouble. Too many Soldiers are doing stupid things right now – and they are paying for it with lost rank, pay and extra duty.

OK – I'm proud of how the brigade is doing given where we've been and where we're heading. You're heroes in the eyes of all the citizens of our great nation. Raiders!

Colonel Jim Pasquarette  
*Raider 6*

## DFAC open for Soldiers

— (continued from page 3)

today with Sgt. 1st Class Brightsen, the DFAC manager, explaining the rules to the enlisted counsel members from the battalions. Each counsel member is tasked with contacting Soldiers of their respective units, detailing the complaints, suggestions and concerns of Soldiers. The counsel members will then meet twice monthly to discuss those issues. Let everyone know that our Raider DFAC is open and menus are posted. 5. Let us continue doing a great job of taking care of our Soldiers and their families.

CSM Michael Bobb  
*Raider 7*



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

**Photo finish...** Soldiers from the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. participated in the Raider Olympics March 9 culminating with track and field as a packed house filled Hood Stadium on Fort Hood to cheer for their favorite battalion.

# 4th Spt. Bn. takes Olympics, trophy

—(continued from page 1)  
is a great way to break-up the routine of drawing vehicles and those sorts of tasks.”

The event was spread out on two different areas of Fort Hood. Volleyball and basketball were played on outside courts at the Abraham's Gym on the 1st Cavalry Div. side of post while the rest of the sports and activities were at Hood Stadium. The fierce competitions not only were for bragging rights, they also sparked esprit de corps throughout the units.

“This is great, and I’m having a really good time,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Shafer, supply noncommissioned officer in charge of Company A, 1st



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

From left, Col. James Pasquarette, commander, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Martinez, 4th Spt. Bn., 1st BCT, Lt. Col. Michael Snow, commander, 4th Spt. Bn., and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bobb, 1st BCT, stand with the first place trophy the 4th Spt. Bn. received after being named the overall winner at the Raider Olympics on Fort Hood March 9.

Special Troops Battalion, 1st BCT. “With all the

craziness going on today, I decided that today would

be a great day to reenlist.”

After the days events were complete, the brigade and their families gathered for the races and the announcement of who won the competition.

Winning soccer, tug of war, basketball, horseshoes and softball, the 4th Support Bn., took home the overall trophy for best performance. The 1st STB won the track event, 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt. won volleyball and 1st Bn., 66th AR won Frisbee football.

“I’m very proud of everyone out here today,” Pasquarette added. “This is the best day I’ve had in the brigade command.”



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

Soldiers from the 4th Bn., 42nd FA Regt. compete in a soccer match against 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt. during the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division's Olympic Competition held at Hood Stadium on Fort Hood March 9.